

Oxfordshire County Council Fire & Rescue Service

Oxfordshire Community Risk Management Action Plan 2013-2014

Securing a safer Oxfordshire



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**OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**

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Introduction

What is a Community Risk Management Action Plan?

We regularly analyse the county's community risk profile and set out our strategic approach as to how we will effectively manage those risks. This is detailed in our Community Risk Management Plan. The government requires us, by law, to regularly produce and review our plan, which is also known as our 'Strategic Integrated Risk Management Plan'.

The Community Risk Management Plan is a five-year strategic document. This document is the Community Risk Management Action Plan which details the specific projects we will start in 2013.

For further clarification of our planning process see *Annex 1 – Our purpose, aims and plans* and *Annex 2 – The 'Golden Thread'*.

Who are these plans for?

This plan is aimed at all those with an interest in the safety of Oxfordshire and who might be affected by the projects we will be undertaking, including:

- Our communities
- Voluntary, community and faith groups
- Other emergency service providers, such as the police and ambulance services
- Trading standards, environmental health and road safety professionals
- Businesses in the county
- Firefighters who serve and protect Oxfordshire
- Councillors and senior managers of the county, district, town and parish councils
- Health and social care professionals

365alive – our strategic vision and targets

Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service (OFRS) is proud of the quality of the services that it delivers to the public. We have a clear vision and strive to recognise and respond to the key issues and challenges. These combine to create our ten-year vision for a safer Oxfordshire. This commenced in 2006 and is called 365alive. All our projects in this plan aim to reduce risk and meet our strategic vision.

This vision sets three challenging targets for us:

By 2016, thanks to the emergency response and the community and partnership work of Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service, there will be;

- 365 more people alive¹
- £100 million saved to the economy of Oxfordshire²
- 840,000 safety messages delivered to the community



¹ By looking at the reduction in the number of people who die as a result of fires and road traffic collisions and the number of rescues we perform, we calculate the number of people who are still alive as a result of our work.

² By looking at the number of deaths and injuries to people from fires and road traffic collisions and the number of fire damaged homes and businesses, we calculate the amount of money we have saved the economy as a result of our work

2013-14 Community Risk Management Projects

The details of each project are set out below. For further information on the details of the projects and information on their progress please contact the 'CRMP Team' via email at irmpteam@oxfordshire.gov.uk or call our HQ on 01865 842 999 and ask for the team.

Project 1: Implement the service's road safety strategy as an integral part of its prevention and protection activities

Responsible Manager: Area Manager – Community Risk Management

Objective: Now that the County Council's Road Safety Team have moved into the Fire & Rescue Service, there is a need to develop and integrate their education programmes, initiatives and resources within the wider established home and commercial safety work activities of the service.

Outcome: To provide an improved and targeted range of safety services for Oxfordshire residents, businesses and commuters, which continues to drive down accidents and injuries in the home, at work and on the roads. This will be reflected in a reduction in the number of road traffic collisions in Oxfordshire which we measure monthly.

365alive Strategic Aims:

- 365 more people alive
- £100 million saved to the economy of Oxfordshire
- 840,000 safety messages delivered to the community

Project 2: Implement opportunities for technological advancements – following a review of fleet, equipment and working practices – to further support and enhance public and firefighter safety

Responsible Manager: Area Manager – Organisational & Technical Support

Objective: Following recent firefighter fatalities in both warehouse and high rise building fires – coupled with the continuing need to drive down the number and severity of accidents and injuries across the county's homes, at work and on our roads – the research and implementation of new equipment and approaches is seen as a key driver to help continually improving our service provision.

Outcome: To continue to reduce the number and severity of injuries to both the public and firefighters, as well as reduce the damage to property from fires and other emergencies.

365alive Strategic Aims:

- 365 more people alive
- £100 Million saved to the economy of Oxfordshire

Project 3: Review and revise the Service's Learning and Development strategy to further support and enhance public and firefighter safety

Responsible Manager: Area Manager – Organisational & Technical Support

Objective: As the scope of the service's response to emergencies expands to incorporate more specialist rescue activities as well as becoming more complex as a result of the latest developments in both building and vehicle design/construction, the need to keep firefighters appropriately equipped and trained is paramount.

Outcome: To continue to provide 'fit-for-purpose' training for our firefighters, based on the emergency incidents they are expected to respond to.

365alive Strategic Aims:

- 365 more people alive
- £100 Million saved to the economy of Oxfordshire

Project 4: Deliver the Thames Valley Fire Control Service (TVFCS) programme

Responsible Manager: Deputy Chief Fire Officer

Objective: With both Oxfordshire and Royal Berkshire Fire Authorities' decision to formally collaborate on the creation of a combined Control Service being agreed – coupled with the recent inclusion of Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority into the partnership – the programme to deliver the Thames Valley Fire Control Service by April 2014 needs to be undertaken.

Outcome: To provide the new service in line with the programme delivery plan and expectations, in partnership with Royal Berkshire and Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authorities.

365alive Strategic Aims:

- 365 more people alive
- £100 million saved to the economy of Oxfordshire

Project 5: Implement further collaborative opportunities with other Thames Valley Local Resilience Forum (TVLRF) Category 1 & 2 responders and align working practices to improve our provision of multi-agency prevention, protection and response services

Responsible Manager: Area Manager – Strategic Risk & Planning

Objective: Developing on from the success of the collaborative working and pre-planning in the run-up to and during the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics, capitalise on the networks, training and agreed joint-working activities to further improve our service provision, particularly in relation to major incidents.

Outcome: To develop and make use of a framework for on-going service improvements in the context of working with neighbouring Fire & Rescue Services as well as other key local partners, as defined by the Civil Contingencies Act (2004).

365alive Strategic Aims:

- 365 more people alive
- £100 million saved to the economy of Oxfordshire
- 840,000 safety messages delivered to the community

Project 6: Review and revise the service's strategy for the effective management of operational incidents in order to further support and enhance public and firefighter safety

Responsible Manager: Area Manager – Operations & Resilience

Objective: Following on from the service's 2012/13 IRMP project relating to incident command and worst case planning assumptions, there is a need to incorporate the research and findings into the service's new ways of working, taking into account the outcomes of this action plan's Projects 2,3,4 & 5.

Outcome: The operational and safety aspects of emergency response will continue to improve, even against the backdrop of increasing scope and complexity.

365alive Strategic Aims:

- 365 more people alive
- £100 million saved to the economy of Oxfordshire

Annex 1 – Our purpose, aims and plans

Our Purpose

Securing a safer
Oxfordshire

Strategic Aims



Oxfordshire Community Risk Management Plan

Dealing with risks to the community and ensuring we are fit for purpose

Prevention

- Education and advice

Protection

- Advice on and enforcement of fire safety legislation
- 'In-built' fire safety

Response

- Emergency response and urgent assistance
- Gathering risk information

Organisational Development

- **People** – getting the best from our firefighters and support staff
- **Assets** – making best use of our buildings, vehicles and equipment
- **Structure** – organising ourselves to operate efficiently, effectively and economically

Safer by design – Annual Business Plan

Community Risk Management Annual Plan

Operational projects and activities

Resource Planning

Budgets, people development, asset management

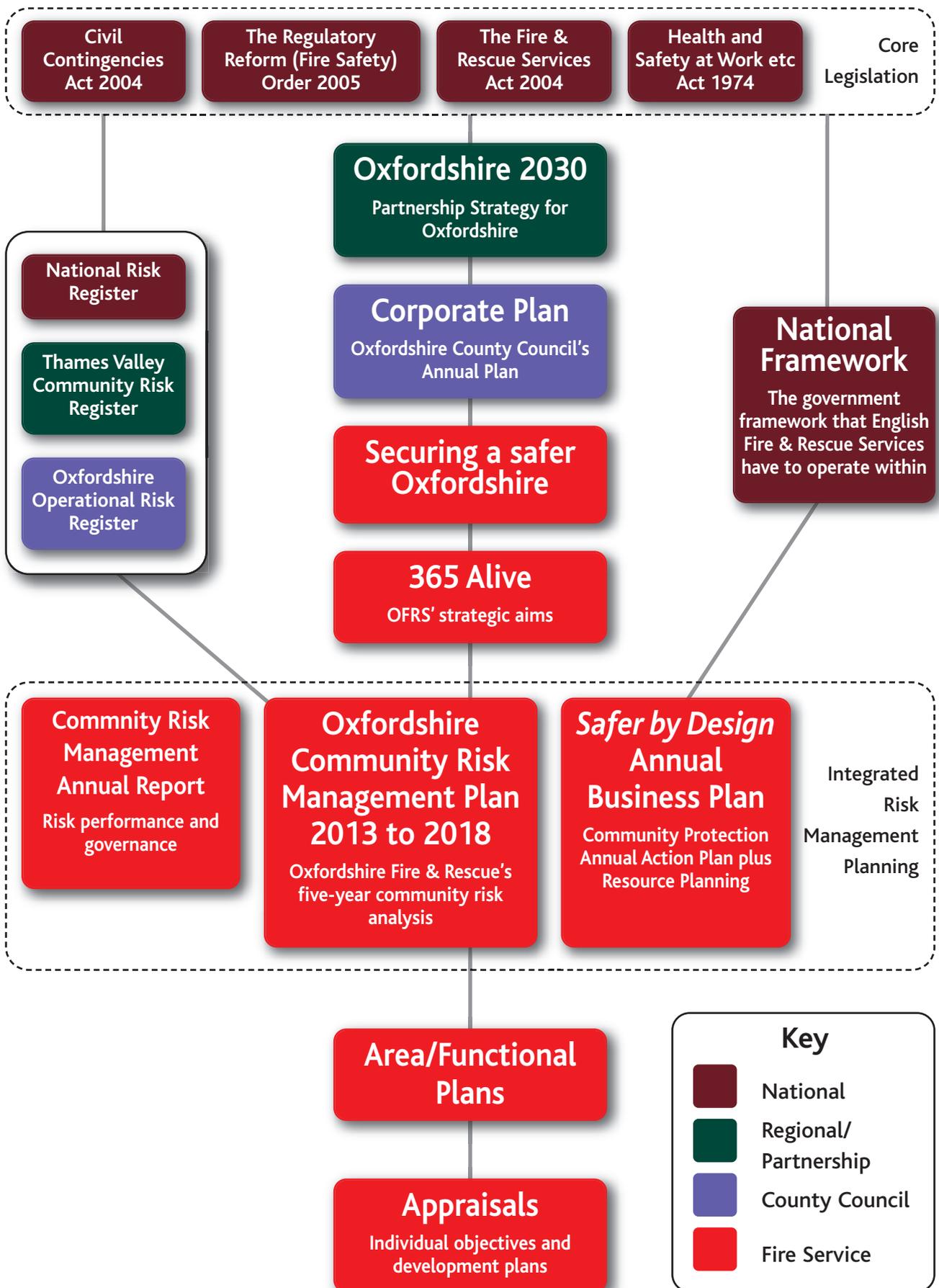
Area/Functional Plans

Delivering the business plan

Fire Risk
Area Plans

Functional
Delivery Plans

Annex 2 – The ‘Golden Thread’



Do you want to be an on-call retained duty system firefighter?

There is currently a shortage of retained duty system (on-call) firefighters at some fire stations in OFRS. This is particularly the case in our small towns and rural areas because nowadays there are fewer people who live and work in their local towns and villages. You might be just the person to fill the gap.

Where do you work?

First of all, you need to live or work near to a fire station because you have to be able to get there within a few minutes of a call. Secondly, because we can't predict when you'll be called out, you have to be flexible in your work. The chances are that you'll be working at home, self-employed or for a community-minded employer who can let you off from time to time.

Are you fit for the job?

To apply to join the Fire and Rescue Service you don't need any paper qualifications. You must be at least 18, with good all-round fitness. You will be asked to take a straightforward physical test as part of the process, and just as important are qualities like common sense, commitment and enthusiasm.

How often will you be needed?

On average, you will be called out two or three times a week for a couple of hours. If you cannot be available all the time, that's not a problem. You can be paid for being "on-call" for only part of the day or week. There is a particular shortage of people who are available during weekends, but you would have some evenings and weekends free if you need to, and still do a valuable and worthwhile job. If you really can't be on-call – for example because of a holiday or a deadline at work – you can "sign off".

What do you get out of it?

Apart from the excitement, the challenge and the satisfaction of a job well done, your on-going training will assist you in becoming more self-reliant and confident. After all, if you can cope in a real emergency, you are ready for anything else which life might throw at you. You will meet a lot of people in your local community and earn their confidence and respect. You will also get continual, on-going training in the use of equipment and in other more general life skills including first aid. Added to all this, you get paid! You get paid a basic retainer, plus a fee for call-outs and another fee for going into action. You also get paid for training and duties like equipment maintenance.

If you think you've got what it takes to join the team, contact your local fire station for further information, or check out our vacancies pages at: <http://oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/retained-firefighters>

